

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 SSM-03 MCT-01 AID-05 /078 W
-----061423Z 083879 /43

R 061248Z APR 77
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8847
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USUN NY

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PBOR, PINS, IS, JO
SUBJ: GUSH EMUNIM PASSOVER MARCH

1. GUSH EMUNIM MARCHERS, ESTIMATED TO NUMBER FROM 10 TO 20 THOUSAND, SLOGGED THROUGH THE MUD AND OVER THE SLIPPERY SLOPES OF SAMARIA APRIL 6 TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR COMMITMENT TO SETTLE IN THE NORTHERN WEST BANK.

2. IN THE COURSE OF THE MARCH, GUSH EMUNIM LEADERS TARGETED A FORMER GOJ MILITARY CAMP AT ABU QARNAYN (APPROXIMATELY 35 05 E, 32 10 N.) FOR SETTLEMENT. MARCH OFFICIALS WHO SPOKE WITH CONGEN OFFICER SAID THE SITE WAS SUITABLE BECAUSE OF ITS STRATEGIC LOCATION OVERLOOKING THE DENSELY-SETTLED COAST OF ISRAEL AND BECAUSE THE LAND IS CONTROLLED BY GOI. ACCORD-ING TO THE JERUSALEM POST, AN ATTEMPT TO ESTABLISH A GOI-APPROVED SETTLEMENT AT MESHAH ABOUT 10 KM. TO THE SOUTH HAS BEEN FRUSTRATED BECAUSE ARAB OWNERS THERE WILL NOT SELL THEIR LAND. NO ACTUAL ATTEMPT TO SETTLE WAS MADE APRIL 6 AT ABU QARNAYN,
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HOWEVER, A CORNERSTONE OF A FUTURE SETTLEMENT WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE BEEN LAID.

3. THE INCLEMENT WEATHER CAUSED THE ORGANIZERS TO TURN BACK SOME MARCHERS AND CANCEL A PROGRAM OF SPEECHES. LIKUD'S EZER WEIZMANN, SHALOMZION'S ARIK SHARON AND NRP'S ZEVULUN HAMMER WERE EXPECTED TO SPEAK.

4. COUNTER-DEMONSTRATIONS IN NABLUS RESULTED IN 18 ARRESTS, ACCORDING TO NEW MEDIA. NO INJURIES REPORTED. THE REST OF THE WEST BANK WAS QUIET. THE JERUSALEM POST REPORTS THE MK MEIR PA'IL CALLED UPON NABLUS MAYOR BASSAM SHAKA' AND MK LOVA ELIAV SAW TULKARM'S MAYOR HILMI HANNUN TO EXPRESS OPPOSITION TO GUSH EMUNIM.

5. COMMENT. AS WAS THE CASE LAST YEAR, THE ELEMENTS FROWNED UPON THE GUSH'S MARCH THROUGH THE LAND OF SAMARIA. ALTHOUGH SHORTER BY A DAY, THIS YEAAR'S MARCH DREW SUBSTANTIALLY FEWER PARTICIPANTS THAT LAST YEAR'S WHEN AN ESTIMATED 25-35,000 TOOK PART.
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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 06-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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